

Application No. 10/723,796
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the abstract on page 19 as follows:

Abstract

~~With reliable application of a necessary amount of~~
~~dross adhesion inhibitor to a cutting start position of an~~
~~object material, adhesion and deposition of dross is~~
~~prevented, improved productivity is attained by reducing the~~
~~cycle time, and a reduction in the running cost as well as~~
~~man power and improved reliability are achieved. To this~~
~~end, a~~ A plasma cutting machine ~~has a jetting means for~~
~~jetting the~~ is provided in which a dross adhesion inhibitor
is jetted from a plasma torch toward the cutting start
position (piercing position) of the object material ~~W from a~~
~~plasma torch used for generating the plasma arc. This~~
~~jetting means is constructed such that a~~ A dross adhesion
inhibitor supply flow path for feeding the dross adhesion
inhibitor is connected to an assist gas feeding line in
which an assist gas for assisting cutting of the object
material ~~W carried out~~ with the plasma arc flows after
~~jetted along the plasma arc.~~